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The Hellenic period naturally falls into: (1) archaic Greek; (2) the great masters; (3) the post-Alexandrian age. The Roman period comprises: (a) the last century of the Republic; (b) the Empire; (c) art in the service of the Catholic religion.

The style and arrangement are attractive, and the monuments chosen for illustration and description are typical and well selected.

A. L. F., JR.

ORIENTAL ARCHÆOLOGY.

UN PALAIS CHALDÉEN, par M. HEUZEY, del'Institut. 18mo (Petite Bibliothèque d'art et d'archéologie). Paris, 1888, Ernest Leroux.

This little volume, the publication of a paper read before the French Society of Architects, is all the more welcome that the official report on the excavations at Telloh has never been completely published. The first part of the book describes the royal palace at Telloh as excavated by M. de Sarzec. The ground-plan here given shows that the general arrangement was essentially the same as that followed by the Assyrians, over two thousand years afterwards. The great difference seems to have been in the decoration; for in the Chaldaean palace nothing permanent, corresponding to the sculptures and frescos of the Assyrian palace, appears to have covered the plain brick walls: also, there are no signs of the use of arches and vaults, as in Assyria. The rooms are grouped around three courts belonging respectively to the men's apartments, the Harem, and the dependencies. The oblong shape of the entire building is peculiar, being made slightly in the form of a barrel by the concave outline of the two longer walls.

As to construction, the most interesting fact elicited by these excavations was from another and a neighboring mound, where M. de Sarzec discovered, in position and perfect preservation up to a considerable height, two large brick piers of about the same thickness as those of mediaeval cathedrals. Each was formed by the grouping, so that each circle touched but did not interpenetrate, of four columns built up of bricks so variously and carefully moulded that no two joints coincided, showing an ingenuity from which a modern architect might take hints. These are the first free masonry-supports found in any Babylonian or Assyrian building, and the discovery opens a wide field for conjecture, giving us a much higher idea of the possibilities of Mesopotamian architecture.

The second part of the volume is taken up with the discussion of an interesting piece of early Babylonian sculpture found in another mound, to the illustration of which M. Heuzey brings a great wealth of knowledge of Oriental antiquities, especially of the early seal-cylinders.

A. L. F., JR.